



Academies Trust (UKAT)

# BROMPTON ACADEMY **NEWSLETTER**

#### TERM 1 / OCTOBER 2023

# SAVE THE DATE!

UKAT SIXTH FORM WARMLY INVITES YOU TO OUR PRESTIGIOUS 2023 OPTIONS EVENT

The Pilkington Building at the Medway Campus – University of Kent

Wednesday 13th December 2023 6.00pm – 8.00pm

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please contact Tim Harrison on 01634 852341

Further details and booking information coming soon!

University of Kent

Academies Trust (UKAT)



### **UKAT SIXTH FORM OPTIONS EVENT 2023**

We are thrilled to announce that the prestigious UKAT Sixth Form Options Event will be taking place on Wednesday 13th December 2023. The event will be held at The Pilkington Building, Medway Campus, University of Kent.

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please contact Tim Harrison on 01634 852341.

Further details and booking information will be available soon via the Brompton Academy website and our social media platforms.

### **MINI SCHOOL UPDATE**



### **MINI SCHOOL ETHOS**

- Both students and staff develop a sense of identity and belonging.
- Encourage all to play an active role in their Mini School (MS).
- Embed our REACH values which is recognised through our rewards system (epraise).
- Encourage students to work closer, to create role models, leaders, and cross year partnerships.
- Encourage students to contribute to a community.
- Recognise rewards for attitude, commitment, and effort as well as exceptional rewards in community, MS competitions, and charity efforts.

The ethos is achieved through different systems that include MS Tutor lessons, student leadership roles, MS competitions, rewards linked to REACH (resilience, equality, aspiration, community and happiness) values and assemblies. The system provides many opportunities and experiences to enhance students' personal development. This ranges from Mini School Tutoring, MS competitions, trips, rewards, team building, charity projects and more.

### **MINI SCHOOL TUTORING**

All students have settled well into their MS Tutor lessons that they attend daily between 12pm – 12.30pm in their MS areas. The MS Tutor's most important role is to build positive, supportive, and approachable relationships with students. MS Tutors should be the first point of contact for parents/carers to support the individual needs of their child.

# YEAR 7 STUDENTS FIRST DAY

It was great to introduce the Year 7 students to our REACH values on their first day!

All MS Tutor groups took part in three team building activities which included cross the swap, making a spaghetti tower with marshmallows, and a scavenger hunt. These activities ensured that our REACH values were fully incorporated and valued amongst the students. The groups were excellent at working as a team through communication, problem solving, and decision making.

# **TERM 1 MINI SCHOOL TUTORING**

All students start with a weekly intentions lesson which prepares students for the week. In this lesson, students check in with their tutor, check uniform, daily 6, share Mini School (MS) leaderboard scores, MS competitions and events, links to British values and Black History Month and sharing after school clubs.

For the rest of the week, Year 7 to Year 9 have developed aspects in personal development including digital learning, financial literacy, and team building activities. Year 10 and Year 11 students have been engaging in personal professional development which covers Relationships, Sex and Health Education, Careers and Citizenship. They have also been focusing on essential skills such as time management, study techniques, mindfulness and stress reduction, equipping them with the tools needed to excel in their GCSE exams while fostering overall wellbeing.

### **MINI SCHOOL TURING TERM 2**

During Term 2, Mini Schools will be following a different pathway which will support their personal development and provide wider enrichment opportunities for the students.



Here is the timetable for the academic year for each Mini School:

All Turing MS students will be raising awareness of their local chosen charity and will provide a fundraising activity in and out of the Academy.

### **TERM 1 MINI SCHOOL LEADERBOARD**

MINI SCHOOL	POSITION
RUTHERFORD	1ST
TURING	2ND
DARWIN	3RD
KEYNES	4TH
WOOLF	5TH

# **MINI SCHOOL COMPETITIONS**

Throughout the term, 250 students from Year 7 to Year 11 represented their MS in various competitions.

# **ELIOT CENTRE STREET FOOTBALL**

Our first ever Mini School Street Football (3 vs 3) competition was an extremely close and competitive tournament! All students demonstrated excellent teamwork and resilience. A huge well done to all involved including both players and supporters. Each student was awarded three community points for their efforts.





### **THE RESULTS**

### YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8

### **YEAR 9 - YEAR 11**

lst	Darwin	100 points	lst	Woolf	100 points
2nd	Rutherford	90 points	2nd	Turing	90 points
2nd	Turing	80 points	3rd	Keynes	80 points
2nd	Woolf	70 points	4th	Darwin	70 points
3rd	Keynes	60 points	4th	Rutherford	60 points

### **MINI SCHOOL NETBALL**



This was our first MS competition of the year!

Throughout the two days, we had over 100 students taking part in the competition. It was an extremely competitive event, with everyone playing fantastic netball and some incredibly close games. Well done to all students who represented their Mini School and they have all received three epraise points each under our Community value.

### **NETBALL RESULTS**

	Year 7			Year 8	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rutherford	100 Points	1 <sup>st</sup>	Turing	100 Points
2nd	Woolf	90 Points	2nd	Rutherford	90 Points
3rd	Turing	80 Points	3rd	Keynes	80 Points
4th	Woolf	70 Points	3rd	Darwin	80 Points
	Keynes (no team)	0 Points		Woolf (no team)	0 Points
Year 9			Year 10/11		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Darwin	100 Points	1st	Rutherford	100 Points
1st	Turing	100 Points	1st	Woolf	100 Points
3rd	Keynes	80 Points	3rd	Turing	80 Points
4th	Woolf	70 Points	4th	Keynes	70 Points
5th	Rutherford	60 Points		Darwin (no team)	0 Points

### **SPELLING BEE COMPETITION**



This years Spelling Bee competition got off to a great start, with each Mini School having a representative from each year group.

Mr Swan, the Compare, said the levels of concentration were fantastic to see and the standards from everyone were very high. The actual words chosen were very tricky and there would have been panic amongst staff taking on this challenge in front of this big audience!

### THE RESULTS

	Year 7			Year 8	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rutherford	100 Points	1 <sup>st</sup>	Turing	100 Points
2nd	Woolf	90 Points	2nd	Rutherford	90 Points
3rd	Turing	80 Points	3rd	Keynes	80 Points
4th	Woolf	70 Points	3rd	Darwin	80 Points
	Keynes (no team)	0 Points		Woolf (no team)	0 Points
	Year 9			Year 10	D/11
1 <sup>st</sup>	Darwin	100 Points	1 <sup>st</sup>	Rutherford	100 Points
1st	Turing	100 Points	1st	Woolf	100 Points
3rd	Keynes	80 Points	3rd	Turing	80 Points
4th	Woolf	70 Points	4th	Keynes	70 Points
5th	Rutherford	60 Points		Darwin (no team)	0 Points

### **REACH REWARD POINTS - EPRAISE APP**

All students have the opportunity to earn REACH points in their subject lessons, outside the classroom, and during Mini School competitions.

Students have been motivated to earn lots of REACH points (ePraise) in their subject lessons, as well as earning points (three points) participating at Mini School competitions. We had over 250 different students represent their MS this term in various competitions which consisted of netball, Eliot Centre Street Football, and the above mentioned Spelling Bee competition. Students are thriving on being part of a team and this has created a sense of belonging within their Mini School.

Our Academy shop has become more popular as students start earning points in lessons, clubs, open events and competitions. All shop items are available to see on students iPads, alongside termly raffle prizes. This term, students had the opportunity to win a pair of AirPods, £20 cinema voucher, a whole pizza, £10 Love to Shop voucher, Flip Out voucher (for two), Ninja Warrior voucher worth £30, £20 Nando's voucher and five students in each Mini School who have 100% attendance have the chance to win a £10 Love to Shop voucher. Each MS had a celebration assembly and students were recognised for their achievements in the final week of term. It's been very rewarding seeing the student's enjoyment and praise they received from teachers and students.

# **STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLES**

We are proud to share we also have a large number of students who display excellent leadership skills in various roles across the Academy. These roles are throughout our Mini School system, extracurricular programmes, and in the classroom.

The purpose of a student leader is to:

- Provide students the opportunity to assume roles of responsibility in our Academy community, as well as the wider community.
- Being a leader allows them to develop our Academy values, commit to our community, and grow in confidence.
- It also allows students to empathise, be resilient, and develop organisation skills.



All student leaders are:

- Elected by peers or selected by teachers and Academy leaders following a recruitment process (application and interview).
- Provided with training on their role, key responsibilities, and leadership skills.
- Lead by staff members.

There are plenty of opportunities where students (Year 7 - Year 11) can develop this:

- Mini School Ambassador (role is supporting Heads of Mini Schools).
- School Council Representative.
- Academy Shop Assistant.
- Community Leader supporting new students into our community.
- BA News Reporter.
- LGBT+ Representative.
- Sports Leader.
- Peer Mentor.
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Combined Cadet Force.
- Reading Leaders (UKAT Sixth Form).
- Numeracy Leaders (UKAT Sixth Form).
- WOW workers (UKAT Sixth Form paid roles).
- Learning Leaders within curriculum lessons to ensure there are leadership opportunities which links to our Academy Curricular Aims.

If you require any further information about the roles or think your child would benefit in any of these positions, please contact Robert Denness by emailing <u>robertdenness@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk</u>



	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
	SPELLING BEE Tuesday 10th October ALL	XMAS MINI SCHOOL FORTUNES Tuesday 5th December All	THE CHASE Tuesday 30th January ALL
MINI	<b>NETBALL</b> Year 7&8 Tuesday 3rd October Year 9-11 Thursday 5th October	BADMINTON Year 9-11 Tuesday 12th December Year 7&8 Thursday 14th December	TABLE TENNIS Year 7&8 Tuesday 23rd January Year 9-11 Thursday 25th January
SCHOOL	TERM 4	TERM 5	TERM 6
EVENTS CALENDER 2023-2024	BROMPTON'S MASTERCHEF Year 7&8 Tuesday 5th March Year 9-11 Tuesday 12th March	PUBLIC SPEAKING Tuesday 14th May All	SPORTS DAY Year 7&8 July 16th July Year 9-11 July 17th July
	DODGEBALL Year 9-11 Tuesday 19th March Year 7&8 Thursday 23st March	FOOTBALL Year 7&8 Tuesday 7th May Year 9-11 Thursday 9th May	* 7



### **HEADS OF MINI SCHOOL**



If you require any support regarding the Mini School system or tutoring, please contact Robert Denness, Associate Assistant Principal, by emailing

<u>robertdenness@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk</u> or alternatively by emailing one of the above Heads of Mini School.

# **OUR VOICE - THE STUDENT NEWSLETTER**

#### Thursday 5th October- Girl's Rugby

Well done and congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 8 girls team who represented Brompton Academy at the school competition. Not only did they win out of all the schools, but they also won all their matches!

#### Thursday 5th October- Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 Netball Competition

Many students arrived to cheer and play for their Mini Schools. Everyone tried hard to rack up their points. Some of the teachers got involved by dancing and cheering on their Mini Schools.

#### Tuesday 3rd October- Year 7 and Year 8 Netball Competition

It was great to see so many students coming to support and represent their Mini School, many for their first time. As it was the Year 7 students first MS competition it was amazing to see them leaving with a smile on their faces saying that they will come and do these types of competitions again.

# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023**



Black History Month in the UK is celebrated from 1st to 31st October. Black History Month (BHM) was first launched in London in 1987, where the aim was for the local community to challenge racism and educate themselves and others about the history that was not taught previously in schools.

This year, Brompton Academy had more of a wholeschool approach. The Library, Refectory, and some

classes were decorated to celebrate this special celebration.

We were excited to offer all students the opportunity to apply for two new roles. We had an astonishing number of applicants for Culture Leadership Ambassador (20) and Diversity Leadership Ambassador (6). We look forward to announcing our appointed Ambassadors in the coming weeks.

Week 1 (2nd-6th October 2023) – Assemblies for all year groups took place and celebrated Black people, in particular, people seen as unsung heroes in the Kent/Medway areas. These figures included, William Cuffay, Mary Seacole, Walter Tull, Sarah Forbes-Bonetta and Olaudah Equiano. At least one Culture Leadership Ambassador helped to deliver each assembly with Mrs Joseph-Brown each day. They were very articulate, confident, and professional – real assets to Brompton Academy. The Culture Leader Ambassadors from Year 7, Year 8, Year 12 and Year 13 helped present to over 120 students and staff each day.

These Assemblies held during Black History Month provide a platform for our Academy to commemorate the successes and legacies of Black individuals. Assemblies also serve as an opportunity for open dialogue about racial equality, social justice, and the continued journey toward a more inclusive society. We ended each assembly with Stormzy. Stormzy is a Black British Artist who funded the 'Stormzy Scholarship for Black UK Students' at the University of Cambridge. This initially covered tuition



costs and maintenance grants for two students. Now it has increased to thirteen Black students each year.

**Week 2 (9th-13th October 2023)** - Curriculum links to BHM. Most subjects covered Black History within their curriculum and produced some amazing work such as Music, Leadership, DT, Ethics, History, Geography, Sociology and PPD to name a few. Well done and thank you to all the staff who contributed and got involved.

**Week 3 (16th-20th October 2023)** - In our final week, we celebrated our achievements. The awards assembly celebrated how we came together as an Academy to celebrate this important time. A student evaluation survey was sent out to Year 7 to Year 9 students, to find out the views of the students, as well as how we can improve things next year. We have already started to take on board their opinions in order to implement some ideas for next year.

**In conclusion,** Black History Month has been a resounding success in various curriculum areas and assemblies. It continues to break down barriers, challenge stereotypes, and promote inclusivity in educational settings. By recognising the countless accomplishments of the Black community throughout history, students gain a richer and more comprehensive education, while fostering a greater understanding of the diverse and interconnected world we share. The successes of Black History Month remind us that embracing our differences can lead to a brighter and more harmonious

future for all. We look forward to creating a bigger better BHM celebration next year. If any parents/carers would like to be involved in future events, please contact <u>jacquelinejoseph-</u><u>brown@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk</u>

# ECO -SCHOOLS COMMITTEE ACHIEVE THE GREEN FLAG AWARD

Students in the eco-committee have earned an international accreditation, recognising their amazing work in making Brompton Academy more environmentally friendly and raising eco-awareness in fellow students.

The eco-committee have spent the last year conducting an environmental review and assessing how eco-friendly the Academy is. They reviewed everything from biodiversity within the grounds to how students and staff members travel to the Academy. Using this information, students then planned a year of action designed



to advance our green credentials, improve their local environment, and protect our planet.

The Eco-Schools Green Flag Award is an internationally recognised symbol of high environmental standards. The students and school staff that earn the award deserve immense credit for their hard work, determination, and creativity.

Huge well done to all those in the eco- committee for their hard work!



### PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Health and wellbeing has been the main focus in Personal and Professional Development (PPD) this term.

Year 7 and Year 10 students learned about transitions and how to navigate change as they start secondary school and begin their GCSE courses.

Year 8 have explored issues around peer pressure, health risks, and first aid for allergies and asthma.

Year 9 learned about the importance of belonging and how to recognise healthy and unhealthy friendships and group behaviour. They also explored the risks and consequences of being in a gang, knife crime, and substance abuse.

Year 11 learned about strategies to help manage exam stresses as they enter their final year of Key Stage 4.

Year 12 and Year 13 examined the importance of making positive lifestyle choices and healthy habits as they move into adulthood and become more independent.

**Kent Fire and Rescue** have also visited to speak to Year 7 about fire safety and the risks and consequences of arson.

Should you need any information to further support your child, regarding any of the topics from this term, please see the information below.



**Young Minds** offer advice on how to help your child with their feelings and behaviour, as well as mental health conditions and life events. It also shows you where you can get help. Please visit the below link

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/



# LIBRARY NEWS YEAR 7 WELCOME QUIZ

Our Year 7 students visited the Library to find their names on our welcome bunting and took the opportunity to familiarise themselves with their iPads and software. The students took part in a welcome quiz with questions about their favourite children's books.



# **BOOKBUZZ 2023**

Year 7 and Year 8 students have enjoyed the exciting opportunity to choose from a selection of fabulous fiction and non-fiction books as a gift form Brompton Academy. With 16 options, more books means more reading for pleasure!



# **CHESS CLUB**

The Library Chess Club is going from strength to strength, with students from all year groups and staff playing at the end of the Academy day on Thursdays. We hope to hold our first tournament soon!



### BUBBLY LITERARY QUOTATION QUIZ

Making the most of the fabulous autumnal weather, we held a fun and light-hearted quiz identifying literary quotes featuring bubbles in various books and plays. This may have given us the perfect excuse to get out the bubble blower and all go a little silly! Prizes were bubbly chocolate, so the stakes were high!

## **HOGWARTS HALLOWEEN CHALLENGE**

The end of Term 1 gives us a brilliant opportunity to gather in the Library in teams and show off our Hogwarts knowledge. Students competed to impress our Careers Experts with their sales techniques in our 'Sell me a Broomstick' competition!



# ACCESSIT

This term, we launched Accessit, our new Library Management System which gives us greater flexibility to add services for staff and students.

# **CAREERS CORNER**

The Careers Hub has had a good start to the new academic year, with the Careers Business Networking Breakfast in September and October, and visits from a number of professionals to talk to our students. We were lucky enough to have a veterinary surgeon deliver a dissection demonstration to our Year 13 students and they all asked a lot of engaging questions throughout the lesson. We also had a visit from an apprenticeship company to come and talk to our Year 9 students about the opportunities available to them.



Our visitors for the September Careers Business Networking Breakfast were Max Foreman, Neurology veterinary surgeon from Fitzpatrick Referrals, Lewis Cousins and Sadie Gough, from CC Cousins, and Christopher Mirk, Lance Corporal with the British Army. Our guests in October were Reynolds Dance Academy, Ruth Westbury, a costume buyer for west end shows, and Tracey Dray, a Practice Development Facilitator for Theatres with the NHS. These were both busy meetings with a mix of students from different year groups attending. Students were engaged with all

the speakers and asked some fantastic questions, which was great to see.

### **CAREER OF THE MONTH**

Our 'Career of the Month' for October 2023 is a 'Firefighter'. Each month, posters are put around the Academy with information about different careers. The key skills required are highlighted, along with an available apprenticeship and local job opportunities.

Our Year 10 students are in the process of finding placements for their work experience week, which is happening in January 2024. There have been some great placements secured so far.



### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD**

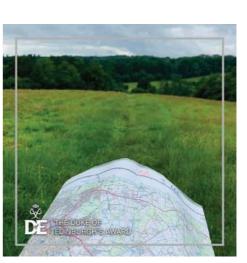
During Term 1, Year 9 students were invited to register for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award (DofE). 35 students registered to take part in the prestigious Award.

On Thursday 12th October 2023, the DofE Team invited Year 9 students and their parents/carers to attend a welcome meeting.

The meeting covered the following topics:

- eDofE the online system that helps students manage their DofE programme
- Volunteering, Skills, Physical sections
- Training sessions what to expect
- Expedition dates practise and assessed
- Groups picking their teams

Next term, we will be hosting the DofE Award presentation on Thursday 16th November 2023 for the previous cohorts to celebrate their success on completing their Awards.



### BEGINNINGS

Term 1 is a chance for new beginnings for not only students, but for staff starting new roles alongside staff returning from the summer break.

Beginnings are important, but they can also be tricky. They can leave us with a feeling of ambivalence. They remind us of the potential we must use to go forward and choose our path in life, but also contain the aspect of the unknown. Students may feel uncomfortable at the start, with new environments to contend with alongside new uniform to wear and a new timetable to figure out. These things are unknowns and can feel scary. As humans, we have an innate fear of the unknown and this feeling can leave you feeling trapped or uncertain of how to go forward. This feeling is what we call anxiety, and it involves living life with a consistent focus on the future and a fear of the consequences.

Even with the best intentions, life doesn't always work out how we would like it. It's then what we do with this situation that matters. Do we allow the unknown to keep us stuck in a position of fear or do we use it as an opportunity to change? Do we make a conscious break from past ways of thinking and behaving and step into a new way of being? Like an animal shedding its skin, emerging to face the world in a new form, potentially stronger and better for making the change. It helps to have the best start possible, and we can help students do this by being consistent. Consistency allows students to feel a sense of assurance; they know they can rely on you to be the same as when they left. It gives them one less variable to consider in making decisions in life and a safe base to return to when things don't quite work out. They can return, regulate their feelings and be ready to 'go again'. A stable and secure relationship allows for great scope in exploration, to get out and really live life to its fullest extent. Ideally this is achieved at home, but meaningful relationships can be formed with any person offering care.

By Andrew Tilley Brompton Academy Councellor

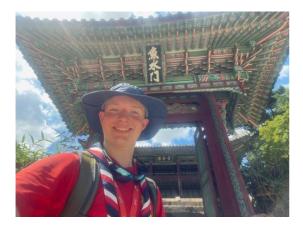
# WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE IN SOUTH KOREA

Silas, a Year 11 student, travelled to South Korea during the summer for the World Scout Jamboree.

Here is Silas' account of his adventure:

The World Scout Jamboree in South Korea was a truly life changing experience. Flying to the other side of the world was incredible and I met Scouts from many different countries. We shared meals, traded badges and neckerchiefs, and I felt part of the worldwide family of Scouting.

We did, however, have many unexpected challenges. Higher than average monsoon rains caused the campsite to flood, and an extreme heatwave challenged the medical facilities, with thousands needing medical attention. Global news channels reported the event as a disaster and a nightmare. It was not a good situation, and our resilience was tested but our training paid off. We were kept safe, and the leaders managed to ensure that we had an amazing time regardless. The UK Scouts, along with a few other contingents, were evacuated to the capital, Seoul, where we continued our Jamboree experience.





The kindness and generosity of the Korean people was heart warming. However, the extreme and unwanted weather conditions resulted in a change of plans and it was disappointing having to leave the campsite. The President of Korea and the Embassy arranged a programme of activities for us, and we met up with other contingents (with a police escort!). Everywhere we went, we were offered gifts and free entry to temples and attractions. People wanted to help and apologise. We got to explore the city, visited traditional temples, saw the changing of the guard, tried all sorts of Korean food, made traditional crafts, hiked to a waterfall, went to the top of the N Seoul Tower, visited Legoland, saw a Taekwondo musical, went to a traditional music concert, and learnt about the Korean War at the Demilitarised Zone. The closing ceremony and K-pop concert was also moved to Seoul due to an approaching typhoon that threatened to tear through the campsite, so all of the remaining Scouts were evacuated. This meant that all 45,000 Scouts were reunited and able to experience the most amazing event.

Part of the reason I went was to learn more about sustainability and global issues. Experiencing first hand the effects of the climate crisis, through extreme weather, made me realise more than ever the importance of taking action on climate change. This trip was my first time on an airplane but I now have a taste for travel. Since the World Scout Jamboree only happens every four years, you have one chance in a lifetime to be a participant. However, I will be applying to volunteer on the International Service Team for the next Jamboree, which will be held in Poland.

In the meantime I have been lucky enough to be selected to represent the UK at Roverway, a Scout expedition through Norway and Denmark, next summer.



# **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY EVENT**

Join us for a day of seasonal crafts and delicious Christmas themed treats. The perfect way to kick start the festive season!



Places are limited. Student sign up and payment will be available on ParentPay at the beginning of Term 2.

### **CURRENT NEWS AND INFORMATION**

For the most current news and information at Brompton Academy, we invite you to follow our social media pages:

Facebook: @BromptonAcademy X: @BromptonAcademy Instagram: @BromptonAcademy



### FREE TALK THERAPY FOR ADULTS

Kent Academies Trust (UKAT)

University of Kent Academies Trust Counselling Service

# FREE Talk Therapy for Adults Monday to Thursday, 4pm - 8pm

You may find yourself feeling anxious or stressed.

The dedicated team of volunteer Counsellors in training are able to offer you confidential and non-judgemental support.

Counselling offers opportunities to look at other ways to manage difficult situations.

For further information or to book an appointment, please email <u>Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk</u>